



State of Utah

Department of Commerce

OLENE S. WALKER
Governor

KLARE BACHMAN
Executive Director

JASON PERRY
Deputy Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 1, 2004

MEDIA CONTACT:

Christine Keyser, Public Information Officer
Phone: (801) 530-6487
Cell: (801) 971-1980
e-mail: ckeyser@utah.gov

Utah's New Online Controlled Substance Database Leads the Country

The Utah Department of Commerce, Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing (DOPL) announces the *first of its kind* online Controlled Substance Database. "Utah licensed practitioners, pharmacists and law enforcement needed the database service 24/7. In keeping with our mission of protecting the public, we are very pleased to make it happen," said Executive Director Klare Bachman.

In 1995, the Utah State Legislature passed a bill implementing an electronic prescription-monitoring program, now commonly known as the Controlled Substance Database (CSDB). This law made Utah the first state to monitor all controlled substance prescriptions. The purpose of the database was to provide a resource to aid in the *prevention* and *treatment* of prescription controlled substance drug misuse, including law enforcement efforts. The database became available in 1997. But up until now, database information was disseminated only during regular business hours through oral, mail, or facsimile methods.

On December 1, 2004, the following authorized individuals may access information from the database through the Internet:

- Licensed practitioners having authority to prescribe controlled substances to the extent the information relates specifically to a current patient to whom that practitioner is prescribing or considering prescribing any controlled substance.

Within the near future, other authorized individuals will include:

- Licensed pharmacists; and
- Federal, state, and local law enforcement authorities.

The state's new online Controlled Substance Database is a resource of which all prescribing practitioners should be aware. It can provide valuable information, day or night, in monitoring prescriptive practices and identifying substance abuse among drug seeking patients. Primarily, the database can assist a practitioner who is concerned that a patient may be an addict or who suspects that a patient may be "doctor shopping" for drugs. With Internet access, a practitioner may conduct a CSDB patient search and immediately receive relevant information—while a patient waits.

Authorized individuals may access the CSDB program at <http://csdb.utah.gov>. Anyone needing further information on the online database program is invited to contact Database Administrator Marvin Sims or his staff at (801) 530-6220 or csdb@utah.gov.